

NEWCASTLE EMLYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1961

To the Chairman and Members of the Newcastle Emllyn Urban District Council.
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1961. The health of the population remained at a satisfactory level throughout the year, and I am happy to report that no case of Diphtheria, Food Poisoning or Poliomyelitis occurred. I should again very much like to stress upon parents the need for the continued immunisation of all children against Diphtheria and that they receive "boosting" doses at five yearly intervals. I would also advise all those eligible to have protection against Poliomyelitis.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the work carried out by my staff and to thank the Members of the Council for the whole-hearted manner in which they have supported me.

I also wish to thank my colleagues and their staff for their continued support and help.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ELFYN T. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

OFFICIALS OF THE COUNCIL.

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer—FRANCIS T. GEORGE.

Medical Officer of Health—Dr. ELFYN T. JONES, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Official Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health: Public Health Department, 3, Spilman Street, Carmarthen. Telephone Number: Carmarthen 6676/7/8.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector—W. J. GRIFFITHS.

Rating Officer—Mrs. P. M. DAVIES.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Newcastle Emllyn Urban District Authority covers an area of 208 acres. The rateable value of the area is £12,260, the sum represented by a penny rate £49, and the number of inhabited houses 268. The mid-year home population as estimated by the Registrar-General for 1961 is 630.

Newcastle Emllyn is a market town situated in the Teifi Valley in West Carmarthenshire, serving the needs of a scattered agricultural community living in the adjacent countryside, which includes a part of South Cardiganshire and of North Pembrokeshire. A milk products factory, a shirt factory, an egg-grading station, an omnibus depot, and various shops and businesses provide employment for a number of the population. A branch railway line for goods traffic runs to the town and there is a secondary modern school and one primary school in the area. The town possesses excellent facilities for the marketing of animals, and marts are held regularly. In addition, it is a popular tourist and fisherman's resort and there is an influx of visitors during the holiday season. A fair proportion of the residents have come to live here in retirement.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS: There were five live births (2 Males; 3 Females) during the year, and this gives a crude birth-rate of 7.94 per 1,000 population.

STILLBIRTHS: There were no still-births.

DEATHS: Deaths during the year totalled 12 (8 Males; 4 Females) giving a crude death rate of 19.05 per 1,000 population.

The causes of deaths were:—

	Males	Females
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	2
Coronary disease, angina	2	—
Hypertension with heart disease	1	—
Other heart disease	2	—
Influenza	1	—
Bronchitis	1	—
All other accidents (not motor vehicle accidents)	—	1

Average age at death—65.42 years



INFANT MORTALITY

There were no infant deaths during the year.

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospital, Laboratory and Ambulance facilities: The district is served mainly by the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen and Cardigan Hospital, with provision for cases of infectious diseases at the West Wales Isolation Hospital, Upper Tumble, Nr. Llanelly. Cases of mental disease receive treatment at St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen. The nearest treatment centre for venereal diseases is at Llanelly.

Bacteriological and Pathological investigations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory and the Pathological Department at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen, and the resources of these laboratories are always available to medical practitioners.

Ambulance facilities, including facilities for the transport of sitting car cases, are under the control of the County Council.

Home Nursing Services: This service is undertaken by one District Nurse under arrangements made by the County Council with the Newcastle Emllyn District Nursing Association. She also undertakes the midwifery work.

Infant Welfare Centres: An Infant Welfare Clinic is held once every fortnight.

Ante-Natal Clinics: No Ante-Natal Clinic has been established in the area.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious diseases cases notified during the year were:—

Measles—1 Female.

Whooping Cough—2 Males.

Two new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis (1 Male and 1 Female) were notified. Two females were removed from the Register during the year (1 Non-Respiratory—Recovered) and (1 Respiratory—Left Area).

The state of the Tuberculosis Register at the commencement and end of the year was as follows:—

Date	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total	
1st January 1961	1 male, and 1 female	1 female	M. 1	F. 2
31st December, 1961	2 male, and 1 female		M. 2	F. 1

A chest clinic is held in the town twice monthly, when the Chest Physician sees patients referred to him by local medical practitioners.

IMMUNISATION

The following statistics have been received from the County Medical Officer of Health relative to children in the Urban District immunised during the year:—

	Primary Immunisation	
	Children under 5 years	Children 5—14 years
Diphtheria only	7	—
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus	2	—
Whooping Cough only	8	1

VACCINATION

Statistics relating to vaccination against Poliomyelitis, for the County as a whole, given by the County Medical Officer of Health are as follows:—

Group	Number who received two injections during 1961	Number who received one injection during 1961
Children born in the years 1943-1961 ..	3,468	500
Persons born in the years 1933-1942 ..	1,843	—
Persons born before 1933 and under 40 years of age	3,291	—
Expectant Mothers	199	—
Others	—	100

In addition, during the year, 8,478 persons received their third injection, and 6,467 received their fourth injection.

Additional protective measures against infectious diseases, made available by the County Council, as Local Health Authority, include Smallpox and B.C.G. vaccination.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of the 1948 Act—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

During the year no case called for action to be taken by the Urban District Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

During the year a satisfactory supply of wholesome water from the Cwm and Penbuarth reservoir was provided to the town, and a small 3 inch extension was executed at New Road. As mentioned in my 1960 Report consideration will have to be given to the augmentation of the present supply if further building takes place within the area.

Samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen, with the following results:—

Date of sampling	Result
16th January	Satisfactory
27th March	Satisfactory

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The sewerage system is not entirely satisfactory as parts of the town are still without a water carriage system. The joint scheme with the Teifyside Rural District Council is the obvious solution, and it is to be hoped that its implementation will materialise in the near future.

SCAVENGING AND RODENT CONTROL

A once weekly collection of refuse operates in the town, and this is carried out by direct labour.

No rodent operator is employed, but, as in former years, cases of rat infestation are dealt with by the Council's workmen under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REGULATIONS

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the County Council. Mr. D. R. Watkins, Chief Inspector of the County Council, reports as follows on work done during the year in the area of the Newcastle Emlyn Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the various Regulations and Orders made thereunder:—

“Total number of samples submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis	19
Informal samples milk tested at this office	8
Alcoholic spirits tested on licensed premises	7
Milk samples sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination	29
	—
	63
	—

Milk samples tested for compositional quality.

Seven formal samples taken from milk-retailers were reported by the Public Analyst to be genuine.

Eight informal samples taken at schools and tested at this office were also found to be genuine.

Miscellaneous articles of Food

Twelve formal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst. Minor irregularities were reported in the composition of two samples of Sausages, whereas the other ten samples were genuine.

Alcoholic Spirits

The seven samples tested by officers of this department were found to be genuine.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

Fourteen samples of Pasteurised Milk taken from licensed milk-dealers were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination for adequacy of pasteurisation and keeping quality.

Eleven samples were reported to be satisfactory, whereas the other three failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

Milk supplied to Schools

Fifteen samples were sent to the Public Health laboratory. Ten were reported to be satisfactory whereas the other five were reported to be unsatisfactory under the prescribed bacteriological tests.

Administration of the Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959: Duties of the Sanitary Authority under the Factories Acts have been carried out by the Public Health Inspector as part of his routine work, and a close liaison has been maintained with the District Inspector of Factories.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	7	8	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total ..	7	8	—	—

2 Cases in which defects were found: Nil.

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK

(Section 110 and 111)

The return required under Part VIII of the Act is: Nil.